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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

BOWLING et al

Serial No.

09/031,065

Filed:

February 26, 1998

Atty. Ref.:

10-1238

Group:

3725

Examiner:

Rosenbaum

For:

REPLACEABLE SHEAR EDGE FOR A STAR-TYPE

FEEDER

TYPE RECEIVEL NOV 05 1999
November 2, 1999 Group 3700

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Responsive to the Official Action dated **September 2, 1999**, please amend the above identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 2, 6, 12 through 16, and 21 without prejudice.

Amend claims 1 and 17 as follows:

- 1. (Amended) A method of treating comminuted cellulosic fibrous material utilizing a star feeder having a rotor with a plurality of pockets rotatable within a cylindrical housing with an inlet and an outlet, a clearance between the housing and the rotor, and a shear edge in the inlet at a downstream portion of the inlet in the direction of rotation of the pocketed rotor and wherein the shear edge is held in place by readily removable fasteners and further utilizing a removable protective baffle mounted in the housing inlet in a position above the shear edge, providing protection for the shear edge; said method comprising the steps of:
 - (a) feeding comminuted cellulosic fibrous material into the inlet;

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